

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 DHA-02 ORM-01 CIAE-00

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R 291225Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4350

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, RO, SREF

SUBJ: TIGHTENING TRAVEL CONTROLS IN ROMANIA

REFS: A. BUCHAREST 3604; B. BUCHAREST 3107

1. EMBASSY HAS LEARNED FROM ONE OF ITS APPLICANTS THAT ON AUGUST 16 INSTRUCTIONS WERE SENT OUT BY MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ORDERING TAROM AIRLINE OFFICIALS AND BORDER GUARDS NOT TO ALLOW ANYONE TO LEAVE ROMANIA WHO DOES NOT HAVE AN ENTRY VISA FOR ANOTHER SUBSEQUENT COUNTRY. THIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY VISITORS TO TAROM TICKET OFFICE IN BUCHAREST.

2. THIS, IN EFFECT, CUTS OFF AN EXIT ROUTE FOR ROMANIAN CITIZENS WHO HAVE RELATIVES IN THE US WHO CANNOT YET FILE VISA PETITIONS FOR THEM.

3. BEFORE THIS ORDER, MANY ROMANIANS WITH PASSPORTS FOR PERMANENT DEPARTURE WERE ABLE TO GO AS FAR AS VIENNA, BECAUSE NO VISAS WERE REQUIRED BY AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES, WHERE THEY APPLIED FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY TO THE U.S. WITH THE NEW RULE, THIS IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE.

4. A TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS NEW POLICY FOLLOWS. MRS. MIOARA GHITA HAS BROTHER IN US WHO WILL NOT BE ABLE TO FILE PETITION FOR HER UNTIL NEXT YEAR. SHE, HER HUSBAND AND THREE MINOR CHILDREN RECEIVED PPTS FOR PERMANENT DEPARTURE ON

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8/1/75. THEY MUST, THEREFORE, SEEK CONDITIONAL ENTRY BUT HAVE

FOUND THE DOOR TO VIENNA IS NOW CLOSED TO THEM. FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES, THEY ARE TRAPPED IN ROMANIA. NEITHER PARENT HAS EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF THE PCR.

5. ACTION REQUESTED; THAT DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZE EMBASSY TO GRANT TEMPORARY B-2 VISAS OF ONE-MONTH DURATION FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS IN CASES SUCH AS REPORTED IN REFTEL B WHERE:

A. APPLICANTS HAVE FIRST DEGREE RELATIVES IN US.

B. THEY HAVE NEVER HAD ANY AFFILIATION WHICH MIGHT DISQUALIFY THEM FOR CONDITIONAL ENTRY SUCH AS MEMBERSHIP IN PCR.

C. THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN ISSUED PPTS BY GOR AUTHORITIES.

6. RECIPIENTS OF SUCH VISAS WOULD BE WARNED THAT THEIR ENTRY INTO US WAS CONDITIONAL, AND THEY MIGHTNNE REQUESTED TO DEPART US AT ANY TIME. THE FOLLOWING SITUATION WOULD BE WRITTEN IN RECIPIENTS' PPTS AT SIDE OF VISA:
QUOTE VISA ISSUED

FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS; APPLICANT
SAYS HE WILL SEEK TO ADJUST STATUS UPON ENTRY IN US. UNQUOTE.
BARNES

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